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Docket No. 50-20

Docket No. 70-938

Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Research Reactor
ATTN: Dr. John A. Bernard, Jr.
Director of Reactor Operations
138 Albany Street
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139

Massachusetts Institute of Technology
ATTN: Mr. F. X. Masse
Campus Radiation Protection Officer
77 Massachusetts Avenue
Room 206-207
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139

Gentlemen:

Subject: Notice of Violation - NRC Inspection Report Nos. 50-20/91-01 and 70-938/91-01

This letter refers to the inspection conducted by Mr. M. Austin of this office on January 14-17, 1991. The inspection included a review of activities authorized by License Nos. R-37 and SNM-986, at your facilities in Cambridge, Massachusetts. At the conclusion of the inspection, the findings were discussed with you and other members of your staff. This letter also refers to a telephone conversation between Mr. Austin and Mr. M. Galanek on February 19, 1991.

Areas examined during the inspection are identified in the enclosed inspection report. Within these areas, the inspection consisted of selective examinations of procedures and representative records, interviews with personnel, and observation of activities in progress.

Based on the results of this inspection, certain of your activities appeared to be in violation of NRC requirements, as specified in the enclosed Notice of Violation (Notice). Two violations of NRC requirements were identified with respect to NRC License SNM-986. The findings of this inspection indicated a lack of management coordination between the Campus Radiation Protection Office in Building 20 and the Reactor Radiation Protection Office in Building 12 to ensure compliance with all the radiation safety-related requirements of NRC License No. SNM-986. Therefore, in addition to the response to the specific violations required by the Notice, please include a description of the actions you have implemented or plan to implement to improve management oversight of the radiation safety program required to support the activities authorized by NRC License No. SNM-986.

In addition, one violation, a continuing violation, was identified with respect to NRC License No. R-37. We note that your actions to correct this previously identified violation, Item C of the enclosed Notice, have not yet been completed. We are concerned that these actions have not yet been completed and other actions have not yet been initiated. Therefore, we ask that in your response you also give this item particular attention.

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You are required to respond to this letter and should follow the instructions specified in the enclosed Notice when preparing your response. In your response, you should document the specific actions taken and any additional actions you plan to prevent recurrence. After reviewing your response to this Notice, your proposed corrective actions and the results of future NRC inspections, we will determine whether further NRC enforcement action is necessary to ensure compliance with NRC regulatory requirements.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice", a copy of this letter and its enclosures will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room.

The responses directed by this letter and the enclosed Notice are not subject to the clearance procedures of the Office of Management and Budget as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1980, Pub. L. No. 96.511.

Sincerely,

Original Signed By:

Ronald R. Bellamy

for James H. Joyner, Chief
Facilities Radiological Safety
and Safeguards Branch
Division of Radiation Safety
and Safeguards

Enclosure:

1. Appendix A, Notice of Violation
2. Combined NRC Region I Inspection Report Nos. 50-20/91-01 and 70-938/91-01

cc w/encls:

Dr. Alan M. Ducatman, M.D., Director, Environmental Medical Service
Dr. O. K. Harling, Director of the Reactor Laboratory
K. Kwok, Superintendent of Reactor Operations
Dr. W. Vernetson, Director of Nuclear Facilities, University of Florida
Public Document Room (PDR)
Local Public Document Room (LPDR)
Nuclear Safety Information Center (NSIC)
Commonwealth of Massachusetts (2)

bcc w/encls:

Region I Docket Room (with concurrences)
Management Assistant, DRMA (w/o encls)
Robert J. Bores, DRSS
T. Dragoun, DRSS
J. Roth, DRSS
A. L. Soong, NMSS
A. Adams, NRP

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Adams via
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